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QUESTION OF PALESTINE

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Letter dated 6 January 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of January 1993, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Group of Arab States concerning the grave situation created by Israel's deportation of more than 400 Palestinian civilians from the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 30 and 74.

(Signed) Ibrahim Abdelaziz OMAR
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab
Jamahiriya and Chairman of the Group
of Arab States

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Group of Arab States

The Group of Arab States in the United Nations met on 5 January 1993 to consider the grave situation resulting from Israel's deportation to Lebanon against the latter's wishes, of more than 400 Palestinian civilians from the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem. The Group also considered Israel's persistent refusal to implement Security Council resolution 799 (1992), which demands that Israel, the occupying Power, ensure the safe and immediate return to the occupied territories of all those deported. This refusal was communicated to the Secretary-General's representative during the visit which the latter made to the area in pursuance of the Security Council resolution in question.

The Group of Arab States reiterates its strong condemnation of this action by Israel, which constitutes a flagrant violation of the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, the principles of international law, the sovereignty of Lebanon and human rights standards. This action is also contrary to the resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly concerning Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories.

The Group of Arab States welcomes Security Council resolution 799 (1992) and expresses its approval of and support for the measures taken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, with the aim of enforcing that resolution, in particular the position he expressed in his letter of 3 January 1993 to the President of the Security Council, in which he informed the latter of his decision to send a second mission to the area.

While reaffirming that full implementation of resolution 799 (1992) is the only way to solve the problem, in the event that Israel persists in its refusal to comply with the resolution, the Group of Arab States calls upon the Security Council to take strong action for its full enforcement by speedily adopting a new resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter.

Such a course of action would help to ensure the continuation of the peace process, preserve the prestige and credibility of the Security Council, which would thus have assumed its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security, and guarantee respect for international law and international agreements by all, without exception.